

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 JAKART 14529 130716Z

20

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-14 AID-20 DRC-01 /146 W

----- 117651

R 120906Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9929

INFO AMCONSUL MEDAN

AMCONSUL SURABAYA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

CINCPAC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE JAKARTA 14529

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT,ID

SUBJECT: THE MARRIAGE BILL: A CHRISTMAS PRESENT FOR THE MOSLEMS?

REF : JAKARTA 14349 (NOTAL)

SUMMARY: REPORTS OF COMPROMISE ON MARRIAGE BILL
FAVORABLE TO MOSLEMS CONTINUE TO CIRCULATE IN
JAKARTA PRESS AND ARE NOW STIMULATING PUBLIC
EXPRESSIONS OF CONCERN ON THE PART OF CHRISTIANS.
END SUMMARY

1. ISLAMIC DAILY ABADI HAS PUBLISHED OUTLINES OF
REPORTED CONSENSUS ON MARRIAGE BILL, ARRIVED AT VIA
AGREEMENT BETWEEN ARMED FORCES AND ISLAMIC FACTIONS
IN PARLIAMENT. (ALTHOUGH ABADI DOES NOT SAY SO,
MANY READERS WILL ASSUME AGREEMENT RESULTS FROM
EARLIER PALACE CONSULTATIONS BETWEEN PRESIDENT
SUHARTO AND ISLAMIC PARTY ELDERS WHICH TOOK PLACE
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 JAKART 14529 130716Z

NOV 24).

2. ACCORDING ABADI, MAIN POINTS OF COMPROMISE AS FOLLOWS:

A. LANGUAGE IN INTRODUCTORY SECTION TO EFFECT THAT LEGALITY OF MARRIAGE IS A FUNCTION OF CIVIL REGISTRATION AND CIVIL LAW REQUIREMENTS AS SET FORTH ELSEWHERE IN BILL, WILL BE REPLACED BY LANGUAGE STRESSING THAT MARRIAGE LEGAL IF CARRIED OUT ACCORDING TO LAW OF RELIGION OR BELIEF (KEPERCAYAAN) PROFESSED BY PARTNERS. (HOWEVER, CIVIL REGISTRATION STILL ALSO REQUIRED.)

B. FACTION MEMBERS AGREED THAT "ISLAMIC LAW IN MARRIAGE WILL NOT BE DECREASED/CHANGED."

C. ALSO, THAT "MEANS OF IMPLEMENTATION WILL NOT BE DECREASED/CHANGED" (PRESUMABLY A REFERENCE TO ISLAMIC COURTS).

D. STIPULATIONS THAT CONFLICT WITH THE ISLAMIC RELIGION WILL BE DROPPED.

E. DIVORCE AND POLYGAMY TO BE REGULATED TO PREVENT ARBITRARY BEHAVIOR.

ACCORDING TO ACCOUNTS IN SEVERAL PAPERS, BOTH CHRISTIAN/ NATIONALIST AND GOLKAR FACTIONS DISMAYED BY REPORTED ARMED FORCES-ISLAMIC CONSENSUS.

3. IN REACTION TO THIS NEWS, SOLEMN EDITORIAL IN DEC 11 SINAR HARAPAN WHICH SPEAKS FOR CHRISTIAN (PROTESTANT) COMMUNITY AND HAS BEEN MORE OR LESS SILENT ON MARRIAGE BILL THUS FAR WARNED THAT MARRIAGE LEGISLATION MUST BE FAIR TO ALL AND SHOULD NOT BE RUSHED. MEANWHILE, ACCORDING DAILY KOMPAS, "YOUNGER GENERATION ACTION COMMITTEE" ISSUED MEMORANDUM URGING THAT MARRIAGE LAW NOT CONFLICT WITH PANCASILA OR 1945 CONSTITUTION OR REPRESENT A SURRENDER TO THE INTERESTS "OF A CERTAIN GROUP." LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 JAKARTA 14529 130716Z

SIGNATURES ON MEMORANDUM (SIHOMBING, HUTASOIT WAWARUNTU ETC.) INDICATE THAT THIS "YOUNGER GENERATION" IS MAINLY CHRISTIAN.

4. COMMENT: CHRISTIANS AND OTHER ANTI-ISLAMIC ELEMENTS ARE UPSET BECAUSE LANGUAGE OF ALLEGED CONSENSUS (AS REPORTED BY SATISFIED-SOUNDING ISLAMIC PRESS) IS IN PLACES REMINISCENT OF

"JAKARTA CHARTER" PROVISION THAT ISLAMIC LAW SHOULD BE BINDING ON ALL MOSLEMS, WHICH IS WHAT HAS BEEN DEMANDED SINCE 1945 (THUS FAR WITH NO SUCCESS) BY PROPONENTS OF ISLAMIC STATE. IT IS HIGHLY UNLIKELY THAT GOI HAS CAVED IN TO ISLAMIC DEMANDS SO COMPLETELY AND WE WILL RESERVE JUDGMENT PENDING AVAILABILITY OF NEW DRAFT LAW. AS OF NOW, POSSIBILITIES FOR CONFLICTING INTERPRETATION OF "CONSENSUS" ARE OBVIOUS (FOR EXAMPLE, NOTE THE APPARENT DISCREPANCY BETWEEN 2E AND 2D ABOVE) AND WE REMAIN SOMEWHAT CONCERNED THAT MOSLEMS WHO ARE NOW IN MOOD OF CAUTIOUS ELATION MAY END UP BEING BITTERLY DISAPPOINTED WHEN ALL THE FACTS ARE IN. AT THE MOMENT, HOWEVER, UNACCUSTOMED SQUAWKS FROM CHRISTIANS AND NOMINAL MOSLEMS SEEM TO INDICATE THAT GOVERNMENT HAS WISELY DECIDED NOT TO FORCE YET ANOTHER HUMILIATING DEFEAT ON THE BATTERED ISLAMIC COMMUNITY. KLIEFORTH

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: LAW, MOSLEMS, MARRIAGES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 DEC 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973JAKART14529
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: JAKARTA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731230/aaaaavrp.tel
Line Count: 134
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: JAKARTA 14349 (NOTAL)
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 NOV 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <23-Nov-2001 by shawdg>; APPROVED <17-Dec-2001 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: THE MARRIAGE BILL: A CHRISTMAS PRESENT FOR THE MOSLEMS?
TAGS: PINT, ID
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005